

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) An expression vector comprising a ~~polynucleotide~~ cDNA of claim 18 operably linked to an expression control sequence.

4. (Original) A host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector according to claim 3.

5.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a first component selected from the group consisting of physiologically acceptable carriers and immunostimulants, and a second component consisting of a ~~polynucleotide~~ cDNA according to claim 18.

12.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic kit comprising at least two oligonucleotide primers ~~suitable for amplification of at least a portion of the isolated polynucleotide according to claim 18, or the complement thereof, in a polymerase chain reaction based assay, wherein said primers comprise a polynucleotide consisting of at least about 10 contiguous nucleotides of the cDNA accordingly to claim 18.~~

16.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) An isolated ~~polynucleotide~~-cDNA comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the sequence provided in SEQ ID NO: 302, or a degenerate variant thereof; and

(b) the sequence provided in SEQ ID NO: 303, or a degenerate variant thereof; and

(c) the complement of the sequence provided in SEQ ID NO:302 or SEQ ID NO:303.